PATENT

Docket No.: 100201724-6
Appl. Ser. No.: TBD

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please find below a listing of all of the pending claims. The statuses of the claims are set forth in parentheses.

1. (Canceled).

2. (Currently amended) The system according to claim [[1]]10, wherein said characteristic of said cooling fluid comprises at least one of volume flow rate, velocity and direction of cooling fluid removal.

3. (Currently amended) The system according to claim [[1]]10, further comprising:

at least one return controller operable to control at least one of said returns, wherein said at least one return controller is configured to substantially independently control said returns to thereby substantially independently vary said characteristic of said cooling fluid removal.

4. (Original) The system according to claim 3, further comprising:

a plurality of sensors configured to sense an environmental condition within said data center, said environmental condition including at least one of temperature, humidity, pressure, and cooling fluid flow rate, wherein said at least one return controller is configured to substantially independently control said returns in response to said measured environmental condition.

5-9. (Canceled)

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10. (Currently amended) ~~The system according to claim 3, further comprising~~ A cooling system for cooling racks in a data center, said system comprising:

a cooling device for circulating cooling fluid in said data center, said cooling device including a fan;

a plenum having a plurality of returns and an outlet, wherein said outlet of said plenum is in fluid communication with said fan, wherein said plurality of returns are configured for removing said cooling fluid from said data center and are operable to vary a characteristic of said removal of cooling fluid through said returns;

a mobile device configured to sense at least one environmental condition within said data center, wherein said sensed at least one environmental condition is employable by the cooling device in circulating cooling fluid in said data center ~~and relay data associated with said at least one sensed environmental condition to said return controller~~.

11. (Currently amended) The system according to claim 10, wherein said return controller is operable to substantially independently control said returns in response to said relayed data associated with said at least one environmental condition~~conditions~~.

12-23. (Canceled).

24. (Currently amended) ~~The method according to claim 12, further comprising:~~ A method of cooling a plurality of racks in a data center, said method comprising:

activating a cooling system and opening a plurality of returns, said returns being configured to remove cooling fluid from various locations of said data center;

receiving temperatures from a movable device configured to detect at least one environmental condition at various locations of said data center;

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determining whether at least one of said sensed temperatures and said received

temperatures are within a predetermined temperature range; and

varying at least one of said returns in response to at least one of said sensed and

received temperatures being outside of said predetermined temperature range.

25-36. (Canceled)

37. (Currently amended) ~~The apparatus according to claim 25, further comprising:~~

An apparatus for cooling a plurality of racks in a data center, said apparatus comprising:

means for activating a cooling system and opening a plurality of returns, each of said

returns being configured to remove cooling fluid from various locations of said data center;

means for receiving temperatures from a movable device configured to detect at least

one environmental condition at various locations of said data center;

means for determining whether at least one of said sensed temperatures and said

received temperatures are within a predetermined temperature range; and

means for varying at least one of said returns in response to at least one of said sensed

and received temperatures being outside of said predetermined temperature range.

38-49. (Canceled)

50. (Currently amended) ~~The computer readable medium according to claim 38,~~

~~further comprising:~~ A computer readable medium on which is embedded computer software,

said software comprising executable code for performing a method of cooling a plurality of

racks in a data center, said method comprising:

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activating a cooling system and opening a plurality of returns, each of said returns being configured to remove cooling fluid from various locations of said data center;

receiving temperatures from a movable device configured to detect at least one environmental condition at various locations of said data center;

determining whether at least one of said sensed temperatures and said received temperatures are within a predetermined temperature range; and

varying at least one of said returns in response to at least one of said sensed and received temperatures being outside of said predetermined temperature range.

51. (New) The system according to claim 3, wherein said mobile device is further configured to relay data associated with said at least one sensed environmental condition to said at least one return controller.

52. (New) The system according to claim 10, wherein said cooling device is configured to vary at least one of a volume flow rate and temperature of the cooling fluid delivered to the racks in response to the sensed at least one environmental condition.

53. (New) The system according to claim 10, wherein the plurality of returns includes fans configured to draw cooling fluid from the data center, wherein the fans are movable to vary a direction of cooling fluid removal.

54. (New) The system according to claim 10, wherein the plurality of returns are independent of the racks.

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55. (New) The system according to claim 10, wherein the mobile device is further configured to detect the at least one environmental condition at various heights of the data center.

56. (New) The method according to claim 24, wherein the step of varying said removal of said cooling fluid from said racks comprises varying at least one of volume flow rate, velocity and direction of cooling fluid removal.

57. (New) The method according to claim 24, wherein the step of varying said removal of said cooling fluid from said racks comprises substantially independently controlling said plurality of returns to thereby substantially independently vary said removal of said cooling fluid from said racks through said plurality of returns.

58. (New) The method according to claim 24, further comprising:

relaying data associated with said at least one sensed environmental condition to a return controller configured to control the plurality of returns.

59. (New) The method according to claim 24, further comprising:

varying the cooling system in response to at least one of said sensed and received temperatures being outside of said predetermined temperature range.

60. (New) The apparatus according to claim 37, wherein the various locations of said data center comprises a plurality of racks.

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61. (New) The apparatus according to claim 37, wherein the means for varying said removal of said cooling fluid from said racks comprises means for varying at least one of volume flow rate, velocity and direction of cooling fluid removal.

62. (New) The apparatus according to claim 37, wherein the means for varying said removal of said cooling fluid from said racks comprises means for substantially independently controlling said plurality of returns to thereby substantially independently vary said removal of said cooling fluid from said racks through said plurality of returns.

63. (New) The apparatus according to claim 37, further comprising:

means for relaying data associated with said at least one sensed environmental condition to a return controller configured to control the plurality of returns.

64. (New) The apparatus according to claim 37, further comprising:

means for varying the cooling system in response to at least one of said sensed and received temperatures being outside of said predetermined temperature range.

65. (New) The computer readable medium according to claim 50, wherein the various locations of said data center comprises a plurality of racks.

66. (New) The computer readable medium according to claim 50, further comprising:

varying at least one of volume flow rate, velocity and direction of cooling fluid removal.

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67. (New) The computer readable medium according to claim 50, further comprising:

substantially independently controlling said plurality of returns to thereby substantially independently vary said removal of said cooling fluid from said racks through said plurality of returns.

68. (New) The computer readable medium according to claim 50, further comprising:

relaying data associated with said at least one sensed environmental condition to a return controller configured to control the plurality of returns.

69. (New) The computer readable medium according to claim 50, further comprising:

varying the cooling system in response to at least one of said sensed and received temperatures being outside of said predetermined temperature range.